There are few lawyers in New York City who are more committed to their clients than Sal Strazzullo. It’s no surprise that Sal is the type of lawyer to take on tough cases. Growing up as a first-generation Italian-American, he attended public school in the middle-class neighborhood of Bensonhurst, Brooklyn, which had a graduation rate of less than 40%. Later on, Sal attended John Jay University where he studied political science before attending New York Law School.

In 2001, Sal started Strazzullo Law, a general practice firm specializing in all areas of the law, including real estate and estate planning as well as criminal and civil litigation. Strazzullo Law while the devastation of 9/11 lingered throughout the city. He had taken the bar exam only months before, essentially leaving his future up in the air. “I didn’t know whether or not I passed until November,” Sal says.

He moved his office to a Brooklyn outpost where he continued a real-estate practice that eventually grew into trusts, 1031 tax-deferred real-estate transactions, and estate planning. Sal has become the go-to firm for real-estate closings, representing buyers and sellers in all areas of the transaction. He has represented some VIP names in banking like HSBC and Citibank and has been featured on The Real Deal, CNN, Fox and Friends, Good Day New York, and in the Wall Street Journal.

Sal has represented NYC’s elite in some of the most high-profile criminal cases in the past decade, involving sports players, supermodels, actresses, and rappers. Some clients included the top Dutch model Roosmarjin de Kok; Foxy Brown; the president of Sea World in a security fraud case (at the same time, he represented this client on the sale of his condo in TriBeCa); Silvia Mena, who sued the Washington Redskins defensive tackle Albert Haynesworth; and Milana Dravnel, who filed a $25 million defamation suit against the boxer Oscar De La Hoya. While representing his high-profile cases, Sal also represented the people who make up his hometown, New York City.

Although Sal has become known for its high-profile criminal cases and television appearances, he spends a lot of time with the real estate division of his firm. Even during the pandemic, Sal has closed over 40 transactions related to the buying or selling of properties. “Although buying and selling have slowed down a bit, there were already many deals in motion before the pandemic, and in the past weeks there’s been a resurgence of buyers and sellers,” says Sal.
NEW TRIBECA OFFICE

Strazzullo Law recently opened a new office in Tribeca. This will be the firm’s fourth physical office, with two in Brooklyn and one in Italy. Strazzullo Law also has two satellite offices: one in Battery Park, and one on Park Avenue. Sal says these six offices give him the capacity to tend to the needs of specific communities. The new Tribeca location was previously a spacious, street-level retail store. “I want to be a part of the community, and trapping yourself in a stuffy tall office building is a thing of the past.” He says. Tribeca is also like a second home to the Strazzullo family. “My kids go to school in Tribeca, my wife shops here, we eat at restaurants in the neighborhood, I go to the gym in Tribeca, so it made sense to have an office here,” he says. DDC, the world-renowned design/furniture studio design the new space with the help of Daniel Hakakian, DDC’s vice president.

CHILDREN’S HEALTH COUNCIL

Sal is a member of the Ben-Bay Kiwanis Club, a group of politicians, mayors, and district attorneys who are involved with a variety of projects, which include fundraising, community service, and assisting children locally and worldwide. Sal is also a member of the Children’s Health Council, which raises funds for pediatric research at New York Presbyterian/Weill Cornell Hospital.

MASTER OF UNCERTAINTY

During the pandemic, Strazzullo Law stayed open because of the exceptional real estate matters and 1031 exchanges the firm handles. Employees could work remotely, and everyone in the offices practiced social distancing. “I wanted to be able to put my flag up and show that we were still here. Right now there are a lot of opportunities out there, just like there were post-9/11 and the Great Recession of 2008. I have no doubt that post-Covid, there are going to be opportunities that people are going to regret not taking advantage of.”

FAMILY FIRST

Sal is most proud of his beautiful, growing family. He considers his greatest accomplishments to be marrying his beautiful wife, Alison, and raising his three children, Michele, Annunziata, and Emilio. The Strazzullo family resides in Battery Park.

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